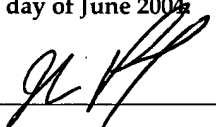


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By 
John A. Parrish

DKT.NO.: BUN-8601

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

_____)	
APPLICANT: Vandermeer, J.)	
)	
SERIAL NO. 10/005881)	Art Unit: 1725
)	
FILED: November 8, 2001)	Examiner: Lin
)	
FOR: Investment Casting Mold and Method of Manufacture)	
)	
)	
_____)	
Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313		

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 AND 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.98, Applicants submit the documents cited on the attached PTO-Form 1449. Copies of the above-noted documents are submitted herewith. Each of the references cited in Form 1449 is briefly discussed below. Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a search report issued by the EPO in applicants corresponding EPO patent application. The

search report issued on May 5, 2004. A copy of the search report is attached. The date of issuance of the EPO search report is not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The EPO search report cited the references discussed below. Contrary to allegations made in the search report regarding the relevance of these references, it is submitted that none of these references are relevant to applicants claimed invention. Each of the references is discussed below.

1. Japanese Kokai 61202744 is directed to a lost wax mold. The abstract teaches addition of fibers to slurry. Nothing in this reference teaches or suggests use of dry blends of refractory filler and fiber as in the claimed invention.
2. Japanese Kokai 57206548 is directed to a fiber composition for use in a mold. The Kokai shows forming slurry by suspending refractory powder and then adding inorganic fibers to the slurry. Nothing in this Kokai teaches or suggests the use of dry blends as in the claimed invention.
3. Japanese Kokai 11156482 is directed to a mold for casting. Refractory slurry that is supplied to a mold includes a refractory such as fused silica together with colloidal silica. This reference fails to teach or suggest the use of dry blends as in the claimed invention.
4. EPO 0763392 shows use of an aqueous slurry that includes ingredients for the formation of a calcium silicate matrix and a carbon fiber. Nothing in this reference, however, teaches or suggests use of dry blends of fiber and refractory powder as in the claimed invention.
5. WO 00/05009 is directed to a ceramic shell mold. Nothing in this reference teaches or suggests use of dry blends of refractory filler and fiber as in the claimed invention.
6. US 3878034 is directed to a refractory laminate. Nothing in this reference teaches or suggests use of dry blends of refractory filler and fiber as in the claimed invention.
7. US 5738819 is directed to manufacture of ceramic shell molds. Nothing in this reference teaches or suggests the use of dry blends of refractory filler and fiber as

in the claimed invention.

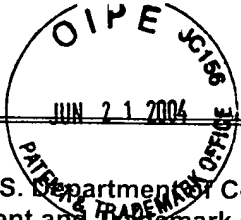
8. US 4196769 is directed to manufacture of ceramic shell molds. Nothing in this reference teaches or suggest the use of dry blends of refractory filler and fiber as in the claimed invention.

I hereby certify that the enclosed reference(s) were not cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office concerning a counterpart foreign application or known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. A. Parrish", written in a cursive style.

John A. Parrish
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No 31, 918
Ph.: 610 617 8960



Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce
(Rev. 2-32) Patent and Trademark Office

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**
(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.
BUN 8601

SERIAL NO.
10/005881

APPLICANT
Vandermeer, J.

FILING DATE
November 8, 2001

GROUP
1725

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	3878034	1975	BEVER			
	AB	4196769	1980	FEAGIN			
	AC	5738819	1998	FEAGIN			1987
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	AL	EP 0763392	1997	EPO				
	AM	WO 00/05009	2000	WIPO				
	AN	11156482	1999	JAPAN(ABSTRACT)				
	AO	57206548	1982	JAPAN(ABSTRACT)			XX	
	AP	61202744	1986	JAPAN(ABSTRACT)				

EXAMINER INITIALS		OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)
	AQ	EPO SEARCH REPORT AND ANNEX
	AR	
	AS	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	